

## **JOINT CIP DECLARATION, POWER OF ATTORNEY, AND PETITION**

We, Frank E. Westerman, residing at No. 3 Braeburn Court, Little Rock, AR 72212 (Post Office Address the same), a Citizen of the United States of America, and Frank G. Westerman, residing at 110 Hidden Valley Loop, Maumelle AR 72113 (Post Office Address: the same) a Citizen of the United States of America, and the petitioners herein, hereby declare that we are Citizens of the United States of America, and that we have read the foregoing specification and claims, that we have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to in the oath or declaration; and we verily believe ourselves to be the original, first, and joint inventors of the invention entitled Foldable Portable Cooler with Enhanced Over-Center Locking Handle which is described and claimed therein; that this application is a Continuation-in-Part of our prior pending U.S. utility patent application, Serial No. 10/295,171, filed November 15, 2002 and entitled "Quick Erecting Foldable Cooler", which was in turn based upon our prior Provisional Patent Application, Serial No. 60/333,208, Filed November 16, 2001, that was also entitled "Quick Erecting Foldable Cooler" and that we acknowledge our duty to disclose to the U. S. Patent and Trademark Office all information known to us to be material to patentability as defined in 37 C. F. R. 1.56; that we acknowledge our duty to disclose to the U. S. Patent and Trademark Office all information known to us to be material to patentability as defined in 37 C. F. R. 1.56(a) which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this continuation-in-part application which discloses and claims subject matter in addition to that disclosed in the prior application; that, as to the subject matter of this application which is common to said earlier application, we do not know and do not believe that this invention was ever known or used in the United States of America before our invention thereof, or patented or described in any printed publication in any country before our invention thereof, or more than one year prior to said earlier application(s); or in public use or on sale in the United States of America more

than one year prior to said earlier application(s); that said common subject matter has not been patented or made the subject of an inventor's certificate issued before the date of said earlier application in any country foreign to the United States of America on an application filed by us or our legal representatives or assigns more than twelve months prior to said earlier application; and that no application for patent or inventor's certificate on said invention has been filed by us or by our representatives or assigns in any country foreign to the United States of America; that as to the subject matter of this application which is not common to said earlier application, we do not know and do not believe that the same was ever known or used in the United States of America before our invention thereof or patented or described in any printed publication in any country before our invention thereof, or more than one year prior to the date of this application, or in public use or on sale in the United States of America more than one year prior to the date of this application; that said subject matter has not been patented or made the subject of an inventor's certificate issued in any country foreign to the United States of America on an application filed by us or our legal representatives or assigns more than twelve months prior to the date of this application; and, that no application for patent or inventor's certificate on said invention has been filed by us or by our representatives or assigns in any country foreign to the United States of America.

We further declare that we qualify for Small Entity Status, and that the assignee qualifies for Small Entity Status.

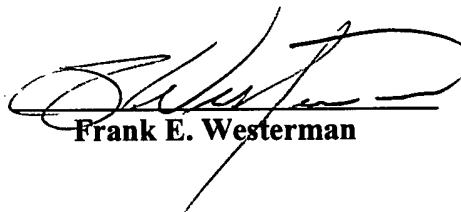
And we hereby appoint Stephen D. Carver, Reg. No. 27,314, at Telephone No. (501) 224-1500, a member of the Bar of the State of Arkansas, as our attorney to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the United States Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith. All Communications shall be addressed to:

**Stephen D. Carver  
2024 Arkansas Valley Drive  
Suite 800  
Little Rock, Arkansas (AR)  
72212-4147**

Wherefore we pray that United States Letters Patent be granted to us for the invention or discovery described and claimed in the foregoing Specification and Claims, and we hereby subscribe our names unto said Specification and Claims and unto the foregoing Declaration, Power of Attorney and Petition.

The undersigned petitioners declare further that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

**SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR:**

  
**Frank E. Westerman**


**DATE OF SIGNATURE:**

Aug. 12, 2003  
**DATE**

**Address:**

No. 3 Braeburn Court,  
Little Rock, Arkansas (AR) 72212

**SIGNATURE OF INVENTOR:**

  
**Frank G. Westerman**  
110 Hidden Valley Loop  
Maumelle, Arkansas (AR) 72113

**DATE OF SIGNATURE:**

August 12, 2003  
**DATE**